



Memorandum # 29/2003

Commonwealth of Massachusetts | Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission
Five Middlesex Avenue, Third Floor, Somerville, MA 02145
Ph 617 666 4446 | Fax 617 628 4002 | TTY 617 591 8917 | www.mass.gov/perac
Robert E. Tierney, *Chairman* | A. Joseph DeNucci, *Vice Chairman*
C. Christopher Alberti | Kenneth J. Donnelly | Eric A. Kriss | James M. Machado | Donald R. Marquis
Joseph E. Connarton, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Retirement Boards

FROM: Joseph E. Connarton, Executive Director

RE: \$300 Benefit for Veterans Selecting Option C
(MTRB v. PERAC, CR-02-660)

DATE: September 9, 2003

In a Decision that has become final, CRAB has upheld PERAC's position as outlined in PERAC MEMO #36/2001, ruling that the \$300 benefit for veterans authorized by G.L. c. 32, § 5(2)(b) is to be added to the member's retirement allowance, no matter what option was selected. Thus, if the member selected Option C on retirement, the Option A allowance (without the \$300 veteran benefit) would be calculated and multiplied by the Option C factor, and the full \$300 veteran benefit would be added to the result.

DALA ruled that upon the death of the member, the veteran benefit would cease. PERAC objected to this ruling, and CRAB has now ruled that the Option C survivor will receive 2/3 of the member's total allowance, including 2/3 of the veteran benefit.

Please review PERAC MEMO #36/2001 for a complete discussion of the issues. If your Board has not recalculated the benefits of affected individuals as directed in that memo, the recalculations must be completed immediately and any payments due must be made. If you need an updated Retroactive Payment Worksheet to accomplish this or have other questions, please contact John Boorack, PERAC Actuarial Unit, (617) 666-4446, ext 935.